

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 126

By Casada

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Janet Parker upon being named the Franklin Special School District Teacher of the Year.

WHEREAS, the Tennessee General Assembly is pleased to specially recognize and commend our superlative educators who have given unreservedly of themselves to develop this state's most precious natural resource - our children; and

WHEREAS, one such extraordinary educator is Janet Parker, who was recently selected as the Teacher of the Year of the Franklin Special School District (FSSD); and

WHEREAS, the good people of the Franklin community have recognized and appreciated Ms. Parker's excellence as an educator and role model for young people since she began teaching at Freedom Intermediate School; and

WHEREAS, a twenty-two year teaching veteran, she received her bachelor's degree in Elementary and Special Education and, later, obtained a master's degree in English; and

WHEREAS, in addition to holding a Reading Specialist certification and an Educational Specialist certification in Instructional Leadership, Ms. Parker recently achieved the prestigious National Board of Professional Teaching Standards certification, which is a ten-year national certification only held by fifteen of her FSSD colleagues; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Parker also holds an esteemed Fellowship with the Louisiana State University Writing Project, which is an invitational professional development program designed to provide teachers with new strategies for helping their students become accomplished writers and learners; and

WHEREAS, Janet Parker began her illustrious teaching career in the FSSD in 2000 as a special education teacher at both Freedom Intermediate and Poplar Grove; she currently teaches reading and language arts to a diverse and talented sixth-grade class; and

WHEREAS, prior to her time in Franklin, Ms. Parker spent several years in Nashville and Louisiana; she served not only in the classroom, but acted as assistant principal and principal as well, adding administrative experience to her vast set of skills; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Parker is an extremely talented and giving person who motivates her students to reach their full potential, perhaps the greatest of all teaching gifts; and

WHEREAS, in addition to her teaching, Janet Parker still finds time to lend her amazing talents to the special school district in numerous capacities; volunteering for several leadership roles, she has served as literacy coach for new teachers, presented professional development sessions for her colleagues both during the school year and during the summer, and has designed and led the Professional Learning Communities program for the Freedom Intermediate faculty; and

WHEREAS, her many awards and accomplishments aside, Ms. Parker ensures that she is doing everything in her ability to meet the needs of her students and their families, recognizing that school is at the heart of the community she serves; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Parker epitomizes the spirit and commitment that are characteristic of a true Tennessean and inspires all of us to imagine a better future by encouraging excellence in her students; and

WHEREAS, highly regarded as a professional and friend, Janet Parker is the perfect example of a person totally committed to quality education and the highest ideals of public service and should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and congratulate Janet Parker upon being named Teacher of the Year by the Franklin Special School District, applaud her for her meritorious service to the state of Tennessee, and extend to her our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.